



**ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL  
GRADUATION/DROPOUT PREVENTION TASKFORCE**

**May 20, 2014 @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Valley of the Sun United Way  
1515 East Osborn Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85014**

**Meeting Notes**

**Members Present:** Cathleen Barton, Rusty Bowers (telephonic), Dan Brown, Dr. Maria Harper Marinick, Amanda McAdams (telephonic), Diane McCarthy, Darcy Renfro, Dr. Amy Schlessman (telephonic), Christine Thompson, Tom Tyree (telephonic), Merl Waschler, and Vince Yanez.

**Members Not Present:** Patti Beltram, Pearl Esau, Sam Leyvas, Martha Morgan, Mary Murphy, Kent Scribner, Carolyn Warner, and Dr. Jim Zaharis.

**Staff Present:** Dale Frost

**Call to Order, Welcome, & Introductions**

Merl Waschler called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. and provided welcoming remarks and introduced the purpose of this meeting, which was to receive an update on the Graduation Rate Research Project and review the Graduation Rate Task Force Report draft.

Diane McCarthy moved for the approval of the April 15, 2014 Task Force meeting minutes as presented, the motion was seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Update: GRTF Final Report**

Rebecca Gau, Executive Director of Stand for Children Arizona, presented the Task Force on the current draft of the final report. The Task Force then engaged in a discussion about the Final Report, providing their input and suggestions for edits, amendments, and additional changes. At 10:11 a.m. Merl Waschler turned the meeting over to co-chair Darcy Renfro.

**Council Comments**

Council members expressed their desire for additional time to review the report and provide additional edits and comments before approving a final draft.

**Call to the Public**

There were no requests by the public to speak to the Task Force.

**Adjourn**

With no further business before the Taskforce, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.